

trouble. The Ainos dam the stream, leaving only a few openings, opposite each of which, below, they build a platform. The fish jump at the opening, but some miss it and fall on the platform where they are caught.<sup>1</sup> The Polynesians depend largely on fish for their food supply. They had nets a thousand ells long, which could be handled only by a hundred men. They made hooks of shell, bone, and hard wood.<sup>2</sup> The first fishhooks of prehistoric men in Europe and North America were made of pieces of bone pointed at both ends, the cord being attached in the middle.<sup>3</sup> The Shingu Indians fished with bow and arrow, nets, scoop baskets, and weirs. Bait was used to make the fish rise. Then they were shot with an arrow. The people had no hooks, but eagerly adopted them when they became acquainted with them.<sup>4</sup> They and other Brazilians set a long cylindrical basket in a stream in such a way that when the fish enters it and seizes the bait, it tilts up into a perpendicular position. The fish cannot then get out.<sup>5</sup>

124. Methods of fishing. Nilsson remarks on the astonishing resemblance between all the fishing apparatus of Scandinavians, Eskimo, and North Americans.<sup>6</sup> The problem is solved in the same way, but the materials within reach impose limiting conditions. The rod and hook yield to the net when the fish are plentiful. Then, however, the spear also is used. It is sometimes made so that the head will come off when the fish is struck. By its buoyancy the spearhead, sticking in the body of the fish, compels it to rise, when it is caught.<sup>7</sup> A peculiar device is reported from Dobu, New Guinea. A string long enough to reach to the ground is fastened to a kite. At the end of the string is

a tassel of spider's web. The kite is held at such a height that the tassel just skims the water. The fish catching at it entangles its teeth in the spider's-web tassel and is caught.<sup>8</sup> The Chinese have trained cormorants to do their fishing for them.

<sup>1</sup> *U. S. Nat. Mus.*, 1890, 471.

<sup>2</sup> Ratzel, *Volkerkunde*, II, 163.

<sup>3</sup> Smithsonian, *Contrib. to Knowledge*, XXV; Rau, *Prehist. Fishing*.

\* Von den Steinen, *BerL Mus.*, 1888, 209, 231, 235.

<sup>5</sup> Ehrenreich, *Volkerkunde Brasiliens*; *BerL Mus.*, 1891, 57.

<sup>6</sup> *Prim. Inhab. of Scandinavia*, 35.

<sup>7</sup> JAI, XXIII, 160.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibidty* XXVIII, 343.